

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 6/25/13

PUEBLO OF LAGUNA

P.O. BOX 184

LAGUNA, NEW MEXICO 87028

Subj.
FILE COPY

Office of:

The Governor
The Secretary
The Treasurer

(505) 243- 7616
(505) 552- 6654
(505) 552- 6655

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Governor Early, EIS Task Force Member
FROM: Ron J. Solimon, Alternate EIS Task Force Member *RJS*
RE: Jackpile-Paguate EIS Task Force Meeting
DATE: April 30, 1981

As per the announcement of meeting dates, times and subjects, the Task Force met on April 21, 22, and 23, 1981. They did not meet on April 24, 1981. I was able to attend only the first meeting and Ann Mariano went on the mine tour (April 21, 1981). No one attended the third day session from the Pueblo. I have attached the following handouts: (1) Agenda; (2) Areas of Responsibility; (3) Key Issues and Concerns; and (4) Task Force Reports. If you will refer to the "Areas of Responsibility" handout you can see that we (the Pueblo) are responsible for a paper which we may have to use in the future as a basis for testimony. The report is required to be quantitative as opposed to general in nature. By the 18th of May, the Pueblo must have submitted an analysis of data adequacy and recommendations for obtaining additional data and an outline of the report on existing conditions, i.e., on the area you are going to write on. John Blueyes (CERT) was also present at the meeting and I'm sure he'll be calling/writing you concerning the same subject. As you can see from the "Area of Responsibility" CERT is responsible for a paper on socioeconomics.

I am really concerned that long-range and even short-range health impacts on the people of the Village of Paguate and on workers have not received past and present the attention that they should. There are two (2) reasons for pursuing this subject-area: (1) the long-range effects on the people that have had the most exposure to radiation may not be evident until several years hence and thus a legal cause of action may arise at that time; and (2) if there are any risk factors that our people should be aware of them we should take action now via health promotion/education and actual medical monitoring of those people in high risk categories. I have recently talked with Margaret Chesney, Ph.D., Director of Behavioral Medicine Program at the Stanford Research Institute, Menlo Park California, and she informed me that cancer research has confirmed a connection between smoking and the inhalation of radioactive dust to the incidence of cancer. She also stated that pregnant mothers are in a high risk category if they are exposed to doses of radiation. Dr. Chesney was alarmed when I informed her that one of our largest villages is located no more than a quarter of a mile to the former open pit operation.



9389031

CONFIDENTIAL

POL-EPA01-0007349

Page Two
Memo to Harry D. E. ly
From Ron J. Solimon
April 30, 1981

While Mark and I were in San Diego to attend the National Indian Health Board Conference we were informed, along with the other conference participants, that the Indian Health Service (IHS) did not engage in active cancer screening. I know that IHS is keeping records on the incidence of birth defects and cancer among the Laguna people. I believe that more active monitoring and education need to be provided to our people. Our first pitch should be to IHS and perhaps we could draw on expertise (medical and other) in the private sector. Dr. Alice McGill may be useful in helping us to make the necessary contacts.

In summary, the EIS Task Force will address all areas except the human factor. I know for a fact that the Pueblo Council requested that this area be addressed. I suggest a meeting between yourself, John and I regarding this subject as soon as possible. I'll leave it up to you.

RJS:ejm